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1615

CASE 4-31158A



FILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

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April 19, 2004
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PCT NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION OF
SHAH ET AL.

Art Unit: 1615

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO: PCT/EP 00/09455

Examiner: R.M. Joynes

FILED: 27 SEPTEMBER 2000

U.S. APPLICATION NO: 10/089,265

35 USC §371 DATE: 27 MARCH 2002

FOR: ORAL CONTROLLED RELEASE FORMULATIONS

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

05/06/2004 GANTHONY 00000009 190134 10089265
Sale Ref: 00000009 DAH: 190134 10089265
01 FC:1252 420.00 DA

Responsive to the Official Action dated November 18, 2003, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

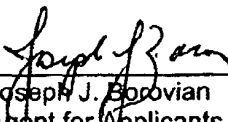
Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on Page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 3 of this paper.

Since this Amendment will be deemed to have been filed more than four months from, but within five months of, the date of the Office Action, i.e., November 18, 2003, it is respectfully requested that the period for filing a response to said Office Action be extended by two months. Please charge the \$420 fee required by 37 CFR §1.17(a)(2) for a two-month extension of time and the \$180 fee required by 37 CFR §1.17(p) for making the additional prior art of record at this time, i.e., a total fee of \$600, to Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation. In this connection, an additional copy of this paper is enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis
Corporate Intellectual Property
One Health Plaza, Building 430
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080



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JJB/ld

Encls.: Supplemental Information Disclosure
Statement (incl. copies of references
cited therein)
Additional copy of Page 5
Postcard

Date: April 19, 2004